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Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. - 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) An immortalized human undifferentiated cardiomyocyte cell line, wherein the cardiomyocyte cell line is designated AC16 (ATCC Designation No. PTA-1500).

4. (Previously Presented) An immortalized human undifferentiated cardiomyocyte cell line, wherein the cardiomyocyte cell line is designated AC10 (ATCC Designation No. PTA-1501).

5. (Previously Presented) An immortalized human undifferentiated cardiomyocyte cell line, wherein the cardiomyocyte cell line is designated RL14 (ATCC Designation No. PTA-1499).

6. - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a human undifferentiated immortalized cell line derived from a post-mitotic primary cell culture which comprises:

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- (a) providing a cell culture of human primary post-mitotic cells;
- (b) providing a human fibroblast cell line which
  - (i) has been transfected with a replicable nucleic acid vector expressing SV40 large T antigen which immortalizes the fibroblast cell line, and
  - (ii) has been depleted of its mitochondrial DNA;
- (c) co-culturing the human fibroblast cell line of step (b) with the cell culture of step (a) under appropriate conditions so that cell fusion occurs;
- (d) growing the fused cells from step (c) in a selection medium which selects for cells with mitochondrial DNA; and
- (e) selecting cells from step (d) which
  - (i) contain a replicable vector that expresses SV-40 large T antigen, and

(ii) express one or more genes specifically expressed by the primary post-mitotic cell of step (a),

so as to prepare the human immortalized cell line.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the cell culture of human primary non-proliferating cells in step (a) is a cell culture of primary human cardiac cells, primary human skeletal myoblast cells, human neuronal cells, or primary human osteoblast cells.

10. - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the appropriate conditions for cell fusion in step (c) comprise incubation for about one minute in a 50% PEG solution.

13. - 19. (Cancelled)